

The New Sentinel

September / October 2024



St Chad's, Poulton-le-Fylde

St Hilda's, Carleton

St Anne's, Singleton



Welcome to the Sept/Oct 2024 issue of the *New Sentinel* magazine

Magazine Articles

Short contributions that may be of interest to readers are welcomed by the Editor and will be published, space permitting, in the next magazine following their receipt. The Editor reserves the right to reject, cut or amend articles if deemed necessary for any reason. *The views expressed in articles are not necessarily those of the Vicar or the PCC.*

Magazine Deadlines

To ensure the magazine is published on time, contributions must be in the hands of the Vicar or the Editor by the cut-off date. The next magazine will be the **Nov/Dec 2024** edition. Any contributions must be with us no later than **12th November** to be considered for inclusion in the next edition.

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Editor - Rev'd. Ian Files

A warm welcome from the Benefice of St Chad's Poulton, St Hilda's Carleton and St Anne's Singleton. We are part of Blackburn Diocese within the Anglican Communion and are members of the Poulton and Carleton Churches Together community. We hold a pattern of regular prayer and worship at all three churches, details of which are published on our websites. The *New Sentinel* magazine brings to you recent news from around the Benefice.

From the Vicarage

Dear Friends

Call it nostalgia if you like, but there was something appealingly simple about the Harvest Thanksgiving of my childhood. We were not farmers, and even then, we were well aware that the food we ate came from far and wide across the world, but we were giving thanks for that provision. What I remember most are the smells, of home-grown fruit, a freshly baked harvest loaf and the bale of hay from a local farm. We had much to be thankful for, and Harvest was the time to remember that.

Today that simple truth is tied in with a plethora of other themes. Through my lifetime, we have become increasingly aware of the ways we are destroying this planet and abusing the resources entrusted to us. Harvest is now part of the Creation Season when we are encouraged to reflect on our stewardship of this planet. Harvest as a focus for helping others has also moved on. I recall as a schoolboy delivering mushroom baskets filled with a couple of carrots, a few potatoes, an apple and an orange to the over 60's. Come to think of it I would have been due one myself for a few years now! Even then we realized that these gifts were tokens, but they did show that people were being thought of and remembered. These days the Harvest collection of dried and tinned goods, from schools and churches, has become an essential source not just for homeless charities but for foodbanks, supporting those who in 2024 still struggle to feed themselves and their families. Supporting those in poverty around the world has also become a harvest theme. To

some the Bishop's Appeal "Harvesting a Love of Learning" might seem to stretch the notion, but it reflects the fact that education and literacy are a prime way to improve people's prospects and allow them to help themselves.

All these themes are important, and I hope Harvest 2024 will see an outpouring of generosity to both the Bishop's Appeal and the foodbank and homeless charities we support but I hope that generosity will begin from a simple and profound sense of gratitude and thanksgiving. In gratitude for the beauty and wonder of creation we commit ourselves afresh to protect it for future generations.

Thankful for the good things we enjoy, we want others to have them too, and so we seek to share and to remember the less fortunate. We recently began our new monthly informal service for children and families, St Chad's@5 with a focus on giving thanks. Christians always begin in thanksgiving. We share in The Eucharist, the Greek word for thanksgiving, as we remember all that Jesus has done for us and from that should flow a life of grateful service. To the surprise of some, one of the appointed Harvest readings is the healing of the Ten Lepers. All ten are cleansed, but only one takes the trouble to return and give thanks to Jesus – and he is a Samaritan. I sometimes wonder what became of them. Did the one who came back, and indeed the other nine, live thankful lives? Did they make the most of being set free from a debilitating disease and from the social isolation that went with it? We will never know, but it serves to remind me that gratitude involves so much more than words. A timely "Thank you" will never go amiss and should not be despised, but Harvest Thanksgiving is a call to a way of living

flowing in response to the gracious generosity of our God, whose love knows no bounds. As St Paul reminds us in Colossians 3 v 14-15, a passage often read at weddings but also a powerful summary of the Christian life.

“Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.”

Yours sincerely
Martin Keighley

From the Registers

Baptisms

July	28th	Mia Dee Nuttall
		Joseph Paul Turner
August	4th	Paris Holgate
		Macaulay Holgate
		Frankie Joshua Paul Holgate
	11th	Evelyn Elizabeth Dorothy Drummond
		Zackary Myles McAdams
	25th	Elsie Olivia Fecitt-Hughes
		Jackson Gordon Fearon
		Florence Dee Wilson
Sept	8th	Isabella Rose Kevwe Neilson-Oke

Emily Phelps

Grayson-Jay Clifford Slater

Katie Maeve Lily Wolstanholme

22nd Noah Edwin Harrison

Wilfred Joseph Harrison

Noah Leo McCluskey

Isabella-Rose Gwendoline Bailey-Darwen

Oscar Blu Bailey-Taylor

Tommy John Bailey-Darwen

Mehmet Noah Garipoglu

Weddings

August 3rd Robert Paul Serjeant and

Stephannie Jayne Darville

Sept 6th Benjamin Allan James and

Rebecca Louise Catherine Sarre

7th Martin John Lord and

Sarah Jane Cause

Funerals

July 22nd Keith Chaloner

29th Alan Whittaker

Jennifer Brotherton

August 5th Julie Feeney

	6th	John Broome
	15th	Margaret Anderson-Shepherd
	19th	Irene Beston
Sept	5th	Michael Brennan
		Philip Whitworth
	10th	Anthony Sumbler
	12th	Jon Gammage (St Hilda's)
	13 th	Brian Burgess-Dicks
	16th	Jean Eaton

Vicar's Notes –

Harvest Thanksgiving 2024

We will keep Harvest at St Chad's on October 6th, and on Monday 7th October at 9.30am Poulton CE School will hold their Harvest Service in St Chad's.

On October 13th we will keep Harvest at St Anne's Singleton and at St Hilda's. As in previous years we will be collecting dried and tinned goods to help homeless projects and the local Foodbank. Many of you will know that we have a basket for the Foodbank at St Chad's, throughout the year and we are blessed with regular and generous supporters. I know our gifts are much appreciated and help to make a difference.

There is also the opportunity to support the Bishop of Blackburn's Harvest Appeal, entitled "Harvesting a Love of Learning". This is going to support the Diocese of Multan in Pakistan, in its education work, improving literacy among women and children. The Bishop of Multan, Bishop Leo, recently visited the diocese and spoke of how the church is growing, in spite of poverty and discrimination, in a country where Islam is the dominant religion, and Christians are less than 1% of the population.

Gift-aid envelopes and details of how to give online, are available in church.

St Chads JC Kids – Explorers and St Chads@5

We have recently revamped our offer to children and families, with the launch of a rebranded Junior Church, entitled

St Chads JC Kids – Explorers

The group meet in Poulton Community Hall from 9.45am to 10.45am, before joining us in church for the end of the Parish Communion. Children 0-6 must be accompanied by an adult, but those 7-11 can choose to attend without parental supervision and have age-appropriate input.

St Chads@5

On the third Sunday of each month, we have launched **St Chads@5**, a new informal service for children and families who find Sunday

mornings taken up with other things. We begin with tea, juice and cake from 4 30 pm, followed by a short service with interactive teaching. We meet next on October 20th and November 17th . We hope you will remember these initiatives in your prayers and spread the word as to what we offer.



Mothers' Union

At our Deanery Festival on Thursday 5th September at St Peter's Church, Fleetwood at 2pm, three members received Long Service Certificates.

Margaret Taziker for 55years,

Sylvia Prentice for 45 years,

Joyce Smoker for 35years.

We hope that our branch will receive the Bronze Award for the Rise Up against Domestic Abuse Campaign soon.

We will be collecting items for Women's Aid from September. They need any size of nappies, shampoos, conditioners and any cleaning items.

The evening group met to plan the programme on Tuesday 10th September. The next meeting is a Desert Island Discs Evening on 8th October. Then on 12th November, Rev John Squires will speak to us. We look forward to our Opening Service on

Wednesday 25th September at 2pm in church. This will be part of our campaign for Rise UP as we raise our voices on behalf of the voiceless. We will also be enrolling 4 new members.

The following afternoon meeting will be on the fifth Wednesday, 30th October, when Wendy Ouali will talk about Life in Algeria.

Theme – Transformation Now – Seasons of fruitfulness

The one whose delight is in the law of the Lord, and who meditates on his law day and night, is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season. Psalm 1:2-3

Loving Lord, plant your love within us that we may enjoy seasons of abundant fruitfulness.

Lead us, loving Father, to fertile places; to cultivate a harvest of faith.

Teach us, gracious Saviour, to nestle close to you; that the Spirit may produce fruit in us.

Grow us, heavenly Gardener, into those who have spiritual food to share with the world. Loving Lord, nurture us with your goodness that we may enjoy seasons.

June Challis

Care for Creation

António Guterres (United Nations Secretary-General) has said that we're at 'Code red for humanity: the alarm bells are deafening, and the evidence is irrefutable: greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuel burning and deforestation are choking our planet and putting billions of people at immediate risk.'

At this time of **Creationtide**, how are we to respond to these climate concerns?

The world belongs to God:

'The earth is the Lord's and everything in it' (Psalm 24:1). The world is not ours, but God's!

We are called to share in care for God's world: *'Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it. Rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky and over every living creature that moves on the ground.'* (Genesis 1:28).

We represent God by governing with the same self-giving generosity that we see in His creation of the earth. This challenges our consumer mindset, that sees the earth's resources as both limitless and existing simply for our needs. For example, the fashion industry uses as much carbon per minute, as a car emits going six times round the world! How can we make a difference in our world?

We belong to Christ:

We also belong to the one whose plan is: *'to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfilment – to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.'* (Ephesians 1:10). We can look forward to the time when God will create a new heaven and a new earth and make everything new. Meanwhile, we are called

to serve as He serves, caring for the earth and our fellow humans, by living simply, recycling, conserving energy and choosing reusable options.

In terms of our world, there is no plan B! God gave us only one planet!

Reflecting Faith: Window Glass

Recently I wrote about the Arts and Crafts Movement's influence in the decoration of churches in Britain. This is often evidenced in the designs of windows – but why do we have so much coloured glass of all shapes and sizes in church buildings?

Stained glass in churches is similar to wall paintings in that it adds colour as well as traditionally serving the purpose of teaching non-literate people the great events and characters of their religion.

But glass is so much more than that.

The techniques used to create these windows have been refined over the centuries, and their intricate beauty has inspired countless artists and designers.

The way the light shines through the glass creates a unique atmosphere that is often described as ethereal or heavenly. In this way, the use of stained-glass windows helps to create a sacred space that is set apart from the secular world.

The light shining through the glass is shown onto the brickwork or stonework surrounding the glass and depending on the original colours, the intensity of the light, the angle of the sun's rays as well as the height and angle away from the watcher: these can range from vibrantly strong to softly muted.



Hundreds of years ago people saw the changes in light in this way as being very significant. It was thought that the light passing through was transformed or transmuted and because of this it had a healing and revivifying effect on people who placed themselves within its light.

This month - Visit a church on a sunny day and just enjoy the play of light being put on for you. What does it say about God's love for you?

Rev'd Dr Jo White

Christians Against Poverty “deeply concerned” at Ofgem energy price cap increase

Following Ofgem's recent announcement that average energy bills are set to rise by 10% from this month (October), Christians Against Poverty's Chief Executive Officer, Stewart McCulloch has voiced the charity's concerns.

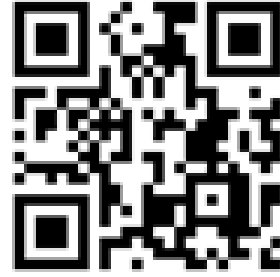
Stewart McCulloch said: “Almost half our clients already face the devastating reality of not having enough to pay for their basic needs, including energy costs.

“With the average household's energy bill set to rise by £149 to over £1,700 per year from October this has the potential to push even more to breaking point. Daily, we see families forced to live in cold, unlit homes, unable to cook a warm meal because they can't afford the cost of gas or electricity.

“But we don't have to accept this. With energy prices set to remain high, CAP is keen to work with the new Government to put in place long term and targeted support so that everyone can afford to keep warm and safe.

“A key element of this would be the creation of a dedicated ‘Help to Repay’ scheme to support people struggling to repay energy arrears.

“The brutal consequences for people's health and wellbeing of being unable to afford to pay for energy have now become too serious to ignore.”



Websites and Social Media Information

St Chad's and St Hilda's Websites:

www.stchadschurch.org

www.facebook.com/st-chads-parish-church

www.facebook.com/St-Hildas-Church-Carleton

St Anne's Website:

www.singletonchurch.co.uk

Contacts

Licensed Lay Minister	- David Gascoigne	07768 303462
Churchwarden (St Chad's)	- Lynne Brackpool	01253 892440
Churchwarden (St Chad's)	- Geraldene Rogers	01253 822877
Churchwarden (St Hilda's)	- Joan Swan	01253 883743
Churchwarden (St Anne's)	- Frank/Hilary Loftus	01772 673201
Safeguarding Officer	- Lynne Brackpool	01253 892440
Verger (St Chad's)	-	
PCC Secretary	- Dorothy Griffith	01253 899602
Mothers' Union	- June Challis	01253 864534
New Sentinel Distribution	- Geraldene Rogers	01253 822877
New Sentinel Editor:	- Rev'd. Ian Files	07778 521233

email - ianf723@gmail.com

The Clergy and Churchwardens will be happy to field enquiries and put you in touch with the correct contact in Church.

Sunday Service Times

8:00 am	Holy Communion (St Chad's)
9:30 am	Holy Communion (St Anne, Singleton)
10:00 am	Parish Communion (St Chad's) All Age Worship (1st Sunday of the month)
11:00 am	Holy Communion (St Hilda's)

The 10 o'clock Sunday Service from St Chad's will be streamed to the St Chad's Website and Facebook page (which can be found at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Chads-Parish-Church-474539146054369>)

Midweek Services

Tuesday	10:00 am	Holy Communion (St Chad's)
Wednesday	11:00 am	Holy Communion (St Hilda's)
Thursday	11:30 am	Holy Communion (St Chad's)
Friday	7:30 pm	Holy Communion (St Chad's)

For any queries about our churches, baptisms, marriages or about our services, please contact the Vicar

Vicar: The Rev'd. Canon Martin P Keighley
The Vicarage, 7 Vicarage Road
Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 7BE
Tel: 01253 883086
Email: martinkeighley@btconnect.com